

CALVARY

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



**Our Neighbors in West Philly:
Our Future Neighbors
August 9, 2020**

10th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Our Way In: We've Come This Far By Faith SOZ 192

We've come this far by faith
Leaning on the Lord
Trusting in God's holy word
It's never failed me yet
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh
Can't turn around
We've come this far by faith

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Invitation to Holy Presence: Spirit of The Living God UMH 393

Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God,

Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me.

Call to Worship (From Psalm 85: 9, 10, 11-12, 13-14) [ALL:
Theresa Marsh]

One: Our Psalm response is: Help us to hear You.

All: Help us to hear You.

One: Listen, O People, in the silent Chapel of your heart.
The Beloved will speak of peace to you,
To the hidden saints,
To all who turn their hearts to Love.

All: Help us to hear You.

One: Those who revere God will know God's Holy Presence.
O, that harmony might dwell among the nations!
O, that glory might dwell in our land!

All: Help us to hear You.

One: Love and truth will meet.
Justice and peace will kiss.
Truth will spring from Earth.
Justice will pour down from the heavens.

All: Help us to hear You.

One: Yes, the Everlasting Giver will grant what is good:
Earth will yield abundantly,
Justice marches forth,

Preparing the way for Holy footsteps.

All: Help us to hear You.

Opening Hymn: "We thy people, praise thee" UMH 67

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, God of every nation!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

1 Days of wonder, days of beauty, days of rapture filled with light tell thy goodness, tell thy mercies, tell thy glorious might.

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, praise thee evermore!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, God of every nation!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

2 For thy blessings, for thy bounty, joyful songs to thee we sing,

songs of glory, songs of triumph to our God and King.

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, praise thee evermore!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, God of every nation!

We, thy people, praise thee, praise thee, Lord of Hosts eternal!

Passing the Peace

ONE: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer by: Rev. Calvin Collins

All: Divine Love, whose grace stretches wide and narrow, Divine Presence, whose power intertwines with our being, Divine Redeemer, whose blood was shed for each of us, Guide us in this time of uncertainty. Give a vision towards the future. Allow us to discern what seeds you are planting and what branches must be pruned. Help us to understand the needs in this community and how this church and the building might be able to succeed in the various missions with the community. Allow us to see the vision that you lead us to see. Allow us to hear the cry of the needy. Allow us to voice our concerns about our future at 48th St. and Baltimore which has been and continues to be the corner of spirituality and justice. Divine Presence, meet us in this virtual abode and be with our conversation that is shared following this worship service about this buildings future. Come, Divine Presence in our worship for we are listening. Stir up in our souls justice, love, and mercy. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music “The Storm is Passing Over”

Scripture Lesson:

New Testament Romans 9: 1-5 [Reader: Mary Grey Emmett]

One: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans 9: 1-5

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus the Christ. Still, I carry with me at all times a heavy sorrow. It is an unceasing anguish in my heart, felt with the sincerity of pain. As a follower of Christ, I do not lie. The Holy Spirit is my witness: I would gladly be cursed and cut off from the

Christ is no longer cut off from my own people. They are Israelites. They are my family. To them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs and patriarchs of faith. And from them, through physical descent, comes the Messiah, who is over all. Blessed be God forever! Amen.

The Word of the Apostle Paul.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Choral Alleluia

Gospel:

One: A Reading from The Gospel attributed to Matthew
Chapter 14 verses 22-33.

All: Glory to you, O God.

One: While Jesus dismissed the crowds whom he had fed with loaves and fish, he had the disciples get into the boat to go on ahead to the other side of the sea. After they left, he went up to a mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, Jesus was there alone. By this time the disciples' boat, battered by the waves, was far from land, for the wind was against them. Deep into the night, before dawn, Jesus came towards them, walking upon the water. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying "It's an apparition!" They cried out in fear. Immediately, Jesus spoke to them and said, "Have courage. It is I. Do not be afraid."

Peter said, "Teacher, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." So, Peter got out of the boat,

started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. Noticing the wind, he became frightened and began to sink. "Please," he cried, "save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand, and caught him. "How little faith you have," Jesus said to Peter. "Why did you doubt?" As they got into the boat, the wind became still. And those in the boat bowed in homage to Jesus, saying, "Truly you are of God."

One: The Gospel of God.

All: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Choral Alleluia

Sermon: Our Neighbors in West Philly: Our Future Neighbors

Hymn of Response: Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness TFWS 2120

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind
on the sea.*

- 1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of
sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing;
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings."*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind
on the sea.*

- 2. You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,*

then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind
on the sea.*

3. *You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind
on the sea.*

4. *You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream
dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind
on the sea.*

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

"Thanks be to God" or "God, hear our prayer"

Prayer Response: Make Us One TFWS 2224

Make us one, God, make us one;

Holy Spirit, make us one.

Let your love flow so the world will know

We are one in you.

Prayer of Confession/Pardon (Rev. Calvin Collins) [ALL:
Theresa Marsh]

ONE: The wind of the spirit that breathes life into us has also called us to confess our wrongdoings to others to plead for forgiveness and to learn from our mistakes. Let us now forgive one another that we have not forgiven that we have withheld love from and that we have disregarded. Take these next few moments in silence to be contemplative of this call from the spirit. (*Silent prayer*)

...Let us pray:

ALL: Holy Spirit whose water flows in us, whose Spirit dwells from corner to corner, from east to west, as far and close as possible. May your omnipresence through virtual means comfort us be with us in those times where we feel others have disregarded ourselves as well. Merciful Spirit, compassionate love, stir up our hearts to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you as we go into the world to serve our siblings in creation. This we pray together. Amen.

One: God whose Spirit that is present in this water and spirit that is present in our souls have mercy on you forgive you all your wrongdoings through Jesus the liberator and our sibling bring you assurance of forgiveness of your wrongdoings and liberation from your mistreatments this day and always. Amen

ENGAGING

Closing hymn: “Hymn of Promise” (UMH 707)

1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

Benediction and Blessing

Singing Our Way Out: “Let the Church Say Amen”

Let the church say, “Amen” *(repeat)*
God has spoken, let the church say, “Amen”

Go in Peace ... Live in Peace

*The service has ended. Our service to the community of West
Philadelphia and the world continues!*

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at the corner of spirituality & justice

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